

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cassette for a sheet-shaped image medium having a substantially planar surface along its length, comprising:
 - a box member adapted to house the medium therein, the box member being provided with an opening through which the medium can be fed into and out of the box member along a first substantially planar direction;
 - a pivotable access member attached to the box member and pivotably movable about an axis substantially perpendicular to the first direction between a first position wherein the access member is disposed in the opening and a second position wherein the access member is not disposed in the opening; and
 - a transport member disposed within the box member configured to move solely in translation, the transport member translating in the first substantially planar direction to move the medium into and out of the box member through the opening when the access member is in the second position, the transport member having a substantially planar surface which contacts the planar surface of the medium along its length when the transport member is moving the medium into and out of the box member.
2. (Original) The cassette according to Claim 1 wherein the image medium is a stimulable storage phosphor sheet.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) The cassette according to Claim 3 wherein the planar surface of the transport member is comprised of neoprene for friction control.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The cassette according to Claim 1 wherein the transport member has a substantially planar surface and the medium has a surface, and a frictional force between the surfaces of the transport member and medium promotes translation of the medium into and out of the box member.

7. (Previously Presented) The cassette according to Claim 1 wherein the movement of the access member-and the movement of the transport member is actuated by a single operation.

8. (Original) The cassette according to Claim 1 further comprising an assist mechanism biased in the first direction to promote translation of the transport member.

9. (Original) The cassette according to Claim 1 wherein the transport member translates a distance from about 2 inches (50.8 mm) to about 5 inches (127 mm).

10. (Previously Presented) The cassette according to Claim 1 further comprising a guide, separate from the transport member, which contacts the transport member when the access member is disposed in the second position to guide the movement of the medium.

11. (Previously Presented) The cassette according to Claim 10 further wherein the guide is comprised of a material which reduces electrostatic charging.

12. (Previously Presented) The cassette according to Claim 1 further comprising a spring biasing the access member in the first position.

13. (Previously Presented) The cassette according to Claim 1, wherein the pivotable access member is disposed within the box member when in the first position and the second position.